

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641

DETERMINATION OF NEPA ADEQUACY (DNA)

WREA Power Line To XTO T57X-19G Well Pad **DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2015-0017-DNA**

Identifying Information

Project Title: WREA Power Line To XTO T57X-19G Well Pad

Legal Description: Sixth Principal Meridian, Colorado
T. 2 S., R. 96 W.,
sec. 19, lot 19.

Applicant: White River Electric Association, Inc.

Casefile/Project Number: COC76844

Conformance with the Land Use Plan

The Proposed Action is subject to and is in conformance (43 CFR 1610.5) with the following land use plan:

Land Use Plan: White River Record of Decision and Approved Resource Management Plan (ROD/RMP)

Date Approved: July 1997

Decision Language: "To make public lands available for the siting of public and private facilities through the issuance of applicable land use authorizations, in a manner that provides for reasonable protection of other resource values." (page 2-49)

Proposed Action

Project Components and General Schedule

White River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA) proposes to construct a new 25-kV three-phase overhead distribution power line to XTO Energy Inc.'s (XTO) T87X-19G well pad in Gardenhire Gulch in the Piceance Basin. The power line right-of-way (ROW) would be 420 ft long, 50 ft wide, and contain approximately 0.48 acres. The power line would originate at an existing WREA 25-kV power line authorized in ROW COC64978.

The proposed power line route is the shortest route from the existing WREA power line.

To construct the 25-kV power line, there would be no need to clear the ROW and only two poles would be needed to complete the project. Equipment to be used would be a 4-wheel-drive 2-ton digger truck and standard utility line trucks. All power lines and facilities would be constructed “raptor safe” with adequate electrical clearances and designed protective covers. Construction of the power line would take approximately two days to complete, and construction would begin in winter/spring 2015.

Design Features

1. Promptly revegetate all areas of earthen disturbance with Native Seed Mix #5. Seed should be applied by drill seeding or broadcasting; if broadcast, the seeding rate will be doubled that shown in the table below and the seed will be covered by harrowing or raking.

Cultivar	Common Name	Scientific Name	Application Rate (lbs PLS/acre)
Magnar	Basin Wildrye	<i>Leymus cinereus</i>	3.5
Rosana	Western Wheatgrass	<i>Pascopyrum smithii</i>	3.5
San Luis	Slender Wheatgrass	<i>Elymus trachycaulus</i> ssp. <i>trachycaulus</i>	3
Critana	Thickspike Wheatgrass	<i>Elymus lanceolatus</i> ssp. <i>lanceolatus</i>	3
Timp	Northern Sweetvetch	<i>Hedysarum boreale</i>	4.5
Maple Grove	Lewis Flax	<i>Linum lewisii</i>	1

2. The holder will be responsible for monitoring the right-of-way for occurrence of noxious weeds for the life of the project and appropriately treating weeds present. The holder will implement an integrated weed management plan according to BLM Manual 9015-Integrated Weed Management (BLM 1992). The weed management plan will include the submission of a Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) to the BLM for the use of herbicides appropriate for control/eradication of the known noxious and invasive species along the proposed ROW including the species listed above. The PUP shall be filed in a timely manner such that weed treatment can begin in the first growing season after construction. Each fall the holder must submit a Pesticide Application Report (PAR) listing all weed treatments that occurred in association with this project.

BLM Required Conditions of Approval to Mitigate Impacts to Cultural and Paleontological Resources

1. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
2. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The applicant will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously

determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The applicant, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.

3. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
4. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.
5. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the applicant or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.

Review of Existing NEPA Documents

Name of Document: White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS).

Date Approved: June 1996

Name of Document: [DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA](#)

Date Approved: 5/8/2009

NEPA Adequacy Criteria

1. Is the new Proposed Action a feature of, or essentially similar to, an alternative analyzed in the existing NEPA document? Is the project within the same analysis area, or if the project location is different, are the geographic and resource conditions sufficiently

similar to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document? If there are differences, can you explain why they are not substantial?

The Proposed Action is similar in location and nature to what has been previously analyzed. The Proposed Action is to construct a 25-kV overhead power line to an XTO well pad. The existing NEPA document (DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA) analyzed a 25-kV power line to Whiting's compressor station.

2. Is the range of alternatives analyzed in the existing NEPA document appropriate with respect to the new Proposed Action, given current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?

Two alternatives (Proposed Action and No Action Alternative), covering a reasonable range of alternatives, were analyzed in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA. No reasons were identified to analyze additional alternatives, and these alternatives are considered to be adequate and valid for the Proposed Action.

3. Is the existing analysis valid in light of any new information or circumstances (such as, rangeland health standard assessment, recent endangered species listings, updated lists of BLM-sensitive species)? Can you reasonably conclude that new information and new circumstances would not substantially change the analysis of the new Proposed Action?

Review by BLM WRFO specialists in this document (DOI-BLM-CO-110-2015-0017-DNA) did not indicate recent endangered species listings or updated lists of BLM-sensitive species that would be affected by the Proposed Action.

4. Are the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects that would result from implementation of the new Proposed Action similar (both quantitatively and qualitatively) to those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?

Review by BLM WRFO specialists in this document (DOI-BLM-CO-110-2015-0017-DNA) did not indicate there would be any direct, indirect, and cumulative effects from the Proposed Action that were not adequately addressed in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA.

5. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with existing NEPA documents adequate for the current Proposed Action?

Internal scoping was initiated when the project was presented to the White River Field Office (WRFO) interdisciplinary team on 12/2/2014. External scoping was conducted by posting this project on the WRFO's on-line NEPA register on 3/6/2014. As of 2/4/2015, no comments or inquiries have been received.

Interdisciplinary Review

The Proposed Action was presented to, and reviewed by, the White River Field Office interdisciplinary team on 12/2/2014. A complete list of resource specialists who participated in

this review is available upon request from the White River Field Office. The table below lists resource specialists who provided additional review or remarks concerning cultural resources and special status species.

Name	Title	Resource	Date
Michael Selle	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns	12/11/2014
Ed Hollowed	Wildlife Biologist	Special Status Wildlife Species	12/2/2014
Heather Woodruff	Ecologist	Special Status Plant Species	12/3/2014
Stacey Burke	Realty Specialist	Project Lead	2/4/2015
Joe David	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	NEPA Compliance	04/09/2015

Cultural Resources: The route of the proposed power line is covered by all or portions of three Class III (100 percent pedestrian) level inventories (Conner 2001, compliance dated 6/21/2011; Hauck 2001a, compliance dated 5/21/2001; and 2001b, compliance dated 12/17/2001), which have not identified any surface manifestations of cultural resources within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of the proposed power line. The proposed project will not have any anticipated direct or indirect impacts to known cultural resources.

Native American Religious Concerns: No Native American religious concerns are known in the area, and none have been noted by Northern Ute Tribal authorities. Should recommended inventories or future consultations with Tribal authorities reveal the existence of such sensitive properties, appropriate mitigation and/or protection measures may be undertaken.

Paleontological Resources: The proposed power line is located in an area that is in a drainage bottom in what appears to be Quaternary Alluvium, which is not particularly known to produce scientifically noteworthy fossil resources in Rio Blanco County (c., Armstrong and Wolny 1989). It is not anticipated that the proposed project will have any direct or indirect on any scientifically noteworthy fossil resources.

Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species: This project would be located in big game severe winter range normally subject to winter timing limitations. However, this area and this well pad, in particular, have been excepted from timing restrictions for the 2014-2015 winter in a coordinated effort (i.e., BLM, CPW, XTO) to support CPW (Colorado Parks & Wildlife) big game research (i.e., response of mule deer to fluid mineral development). In the event power line installation were to coincide with the severe winter range period (December 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015), the brief 2-day construction period attributable to power line installation would not add substantially to cumulative energy expenditures of big game along this developed valley corridor. The power line would parallel well access from an existing road and pipeline corridor and would involve virtually no modification of wildlife forage or cover resources. Regardless of construction timeframes, activity would be confined to the ongoing influence of the producing well pad and have no further consequence on potential raptor (none recorded) or migratory bird nesting activity. The applicant has a thorough familiarity with and has committed to incorporating raptor protection measures and protocols required by BLM and USFWS (US Fish & Wildlife Service) to prevent electrocution of large birds.

Threatened and Endangered Plant Species: The Proposed Action is surrounded by potential habitat for threatened *Physaria* spp. However, all activity will be occurring in the drainage bottom away from steep slopes where *Physaria* spp. would occur. There were no special status plant concerns in the original EA (DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA) and the same analysis is sufficient for this action since all disturbances will be occurring outside of potential habitat.

Mitigation

The following applicable mitigation from DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA has been carried forward:

1. All construction or maintenance will be postponed when soils or road surfaces become saturated to a depth of three inches or more, unless otherwise approved by the Authorized Officer (AO). Emergency maintenance may occur when saturated soil conditions exist without prior approval of the AO, but timely notification is required.
2. If access to pole locations for construction and/or maintenance result in ruts that are 3 inches or deeper, the holder will notify the AO and initiate reclamation activities including seeding with a BLM approved seed mix, mulching and installation of water bars or other means to reduce the concentration of storm water along tire ruts.
3. Waterbars will be installed, if necessary, on access routes to assure run off is not concentrated along these routes due to disturbance from vehicles.
4. Solid wastes (garbage) and sewage will be properly disposed of offsite in an approved facility.
5. The release of any chemical, oil, petroleum product, or sewage, etc., (regardless of quantity) must be contained immediately, cleaned up as soon as possible, and reported by the project proponent to the Bureau of Land Management.
6. Except for the auger holes for the placement of poles, all excavations into the underlying rock formation must be monitored by an approved paleontologist.
7. Vegetation will be removed by mechanical mastication means or in a manner to facilitate reclamation of the routes. All woody material and brush will be removed or mechanically masticated within a twenty foot area around the pole structures. If during construction there is any wildland fire in the area, Craig Interagency Dispatch will be notified so that a BLM Fire Crew may respond to the incident to determine the appropriate management response.
8. The holder is responsible for obtaining necessary state and local permits.
9. The power line route traverses severe winter range for mule deer. No development activities (including vegetation clearing) will be permitted from **January 1 through April 30**. *An exception is granted for the 2014-2015 winter.*

References Cited:

Armstrong, Harley J., and David G. Wolny

1989 Paleontological Resources of Northwest Colorado: A Regional Analysis. Museum of Western Colorado, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Conner, Carl E.

2001 Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for a Proposed 3 Phase, 25kV power Line in Gardenhire Gulch (4.6 miles Long) in Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Grand River Institute, Grand Junction, Colorado. (01-11-201: OAHP # RB.LM.NR1156)

Hauck, F. Richard

2001a Cultural Resource Evaluation of 14 Proposed Locations & a Compressor Site Location in the Magnolia Ridge Locality of Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Archeological-Environmental Research Corporation (AERC), Bountiful, Utah. (01-38-04: OAHP # RB.LM.NR1155)

2001b Cultural Resources Evaluations of 13 Proposed Well Locations & Pipeline/Access Corridors in the Magnolia Ridge Locality of Rio Blanco County, Colorado. Archeological-Environmental Research Corporation (AERC), Bountiful, Utah. (01-38-10: OAHP # RB.LM.NR1218)

Tribes, Individuals, Organizations, or Agencies Consulted

Colorado SHPO 5/25/2001, 6/21/2001, and 12/21/2001

Conclusion

Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to applicable land use plan and that the NEPA documentation fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of the NEPA.



Field Manager

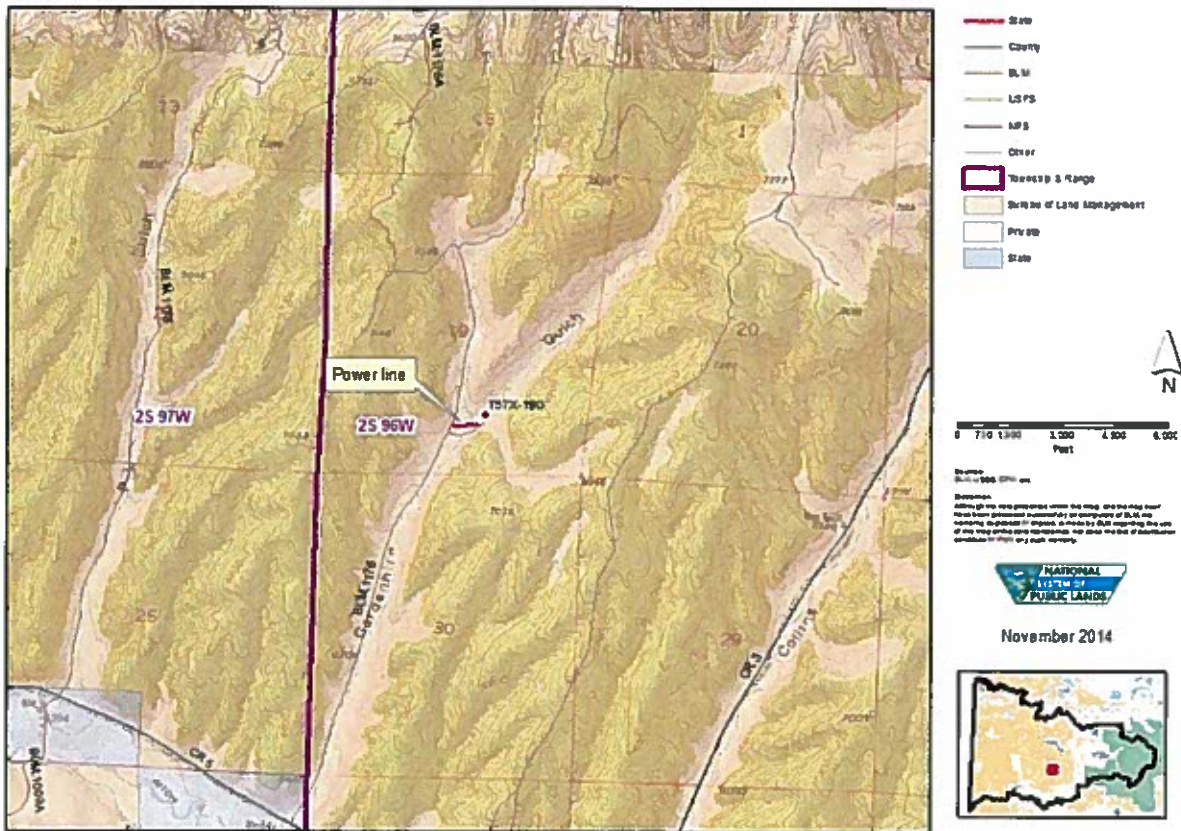


Date

Appendix A. Figures

Power Line to XTO's T57X-19G Well Pad T2S, R96W

Exhibit A



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

WREA Power Line To XTO T57X-19G Well Pad DOI-BLM-CO-2015-0017-DNA

Background

White River Electric Association, Inc. (WREA) proposes to construct an overhead 25-kV three-phase distribution power line to an existing XTO Energy, Inc. (XTO) well pad in Gardenhire Gulch in the Piceance Basin. The power line would begin at an existing WREA power line. The power line would be 420 ft long. The width of the power line right-of-way (ROW) would be 50 ft to include anchors/guy wires and access.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon a review of the EA and the supporting documents, I have determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment, individually or cumulatively with other actions in the general area. No environmental effects meet the definition of significance in context or intensity, as defined at 40 CFR 1508.27 and do not exceed those effects as described in the White River Resource Area Proposed Resource Management Plan and Final Environmental Impact Statement (1996). Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required. This finding is based on the context and intensity of the project as described below.

Context

The project is a site-specific action directly involving BLM administered public lands that do not in and of itself have international, national, regional, or state-wide importance. The power line would be in use for the life of the well, and the ROWs would be reclaimed to BLM specifications.

Intensity

The following discussion is organized around the 10 Significance Criteria described at 40 CFR 1508.27. The following have been considered in evaluating intensity for this Proposed Action:

1. Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse.

Beneficial and adverse effects of the Proposed Action were described in the EA. Mitigating measures to reduce potential short-term impacts to soils, distribution of invasive non-native species, special status species, cultural resources, and paleontology were incorporated. None of the environmental effects discussed in the EA are considered significant.

2. The degree to which the Proposed Action affects public health or safety.

There would be no impact to public health and safety if the safety measures described in the applicant's plan of development are properly implemented, and the developed mitigation is adhered to.

3. Unique characteristics of the geographic area such as proximity to historic or cultural resources, park lands, prime farmlands, wetlands, wild and scenic rivers, or ecologically critical areas.

No wetlands, prime farmlands, parklands, or scenic rivers occur in the project area. Several Class III Cultural Resource inventories identified as not eligible cultural resources occur in the proposed areas of disturbance.

4. Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.

The decision for issuing rights-of-way is not unique. Right-of-way decisions have been made in this area by this field office for many years. No comments or concerns have been received regarding possible effects on the quality of the human environment during the public comment period.

5. Degree to which the possible effects on the quality of the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risk.

The project is not unique or unusual in this area. The BLM has been making decisions on similar actions for many years. No highly uncertain or unknown risks to the human environment were identified during analysis of the Proposed Action.

6. Degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.

The Proposed Action neither establishes a precedent for future BLM actions with significant effects nor represents a decision in principle about a future consideration. Similar proposals for power lines have been evaluated and approved, so the authorization of an overhead 25-kV distribution power line would not set a precedent for future actions.

7. Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

The Proposed Action was considered in the context of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions. No cumulative impacts related to other actions that would have a significant adverse impact were identified or are anticipated.

8. The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed on the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.

Inventories have been completed for historic and cultural resources in the area and potential impacts to districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or potential loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historic resources have been identified. Mitigation developed through consultation with SHPO has been provided to protect any cultural resources and potential adverse effects have been mitigated. If any previously unknown cultural resources are located during construction of the Proposed Action, construction would stop and the BLM would be notified.

9. The degree to which the action may adversely affect an endangered or threatened species or its habitat that has been determined to be critical under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973.

No endangered or threatened species or its habitat will be adversely affected as a result of this Proposed Action.

10. Whether the action threatens a violation of Federal, State, or local law or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

Neither the Proposed Action nor impacts associated with it violate any laws or requirements imposed for the protection of the environment.

Signature of Authorized Official



Field Manager



Date

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
White River Field Office
220 E Market St
Meeker, CO 81641

DECISION RECORD

WREA Power Line To XTO T57X-19G Well Pad **DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2015-0017-DNA**

Decision

It is my decision to implement the Proposed Action as described in DOI-BLM-CO-N05-2015-0017-DNA, authorizing the construction, operation, and maintenance of an overhead power line to XTO Energy's T57X-19G well pad.

Applicant Committed Design Features

1. Promptly revegetate all areas of earthen disturbance with Native Seed Mix #5. Seed should be applied by drill seeding or broadcasting; if broadcast, the seeding rate will be doubled that shown in the table below and the seed will be covered by harrowing or raking.

Cultivar	Common Name	Scientific Name	Application Rate (lbs PLS/acre)
Magnar	Basin Wildrye	<i>Leymus cinereus</i>	3.5
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Maple Grove	Lewis Flax	<i>Linum lewisii</i>	1

2. The holder will be responsible for monitoring the right-of-way for occurrence of noxious weeds for the life of the project and appropriately treating weeds present. The holder will implement an integrated weed management plan according to BLM Manual 9015-Integrated Weed Management (BLM 1992). The weed management plan will include the submission of a Pesticide Use Proposal (PUP) to the BLM for the use of herbicides appropriate for control/eradication of the known noxious and invasive species along the proposed ROW including the species listed above. The PUP shall be filed in a timely manner such that weed treatment can begin in the first growing season after construction. Each fall the holder must submit a Pesticide Application Report (PAR) listing all weed treatments that occurred in association with this project.

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3. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project that they will be subject to prosecution for knowingly disturbing archaeological sites or for collecting artifacts.
4. If any archaeological materials are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, activity in the vicinity of the discovery will cease, and the BLM WRFO Archaeologist will be notified immediately. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The applicant will make every effort to protect the site from further impacts including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage until BLM determines a treatment approach, and the treatment is completed. Unless previously determined in treatment plans or agreements, BLM will evaluate the cultural resources and, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), select the appropriate mitigation option within 48 hours of the discovery. The applicant, under guidance of the BLM, will implement the mitigation in a timely manner. The process will be fully documented in reports, site forms, maps, drawings, and photographs. The BLM will forward documentation to the SHPO for review and concurrence.
5. Pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(g), the applicant must notify the AO, by telephone and written confirmation, immediately upon the discovery of human remains, funerary items, sacred objects, or objects of cultural patrimony. Further, pursuant to 43 CFR 10.4(c) and (d), the operator must stop activities in the vicinity of the discovery and protect it for 30 days or until notified to proceed by the AO.
6. The applicant is responsible for informing all persons who are associated with the project operations that they will be subject to prosecution for disturbing or collecting vertebrate or other scientifically-important fossils, collecting large amounts of petrified wood (over 25lbs./day, up to 250lbs./year), or collecting fossils for commercial purposes on public lands.
7. If any paleontological resources are discovered as a result of operations under this authorization, the applicant or any of his agents must stop work immediately at that site, immediately contact the BLM Paleontology Coordinator, and make every effort to protect the site from further impacts, including looting, erosion, or other human or natural damage. Work may not resume at that location until approved by the AO. The BLM or designated paleontologist will evaluate the discovery and take action to protect or remove the resource within 10 working days. Within 10 days, the operator will be allowed to continue construction through the site, or will be given the choice of either (a) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for stabilizing the fossil resource in place and avoiding further disturbance to the fossil resource, or (b) following the Paleontology Coordinator's instructions for mitigating impacts to the fossil resource prior to continuing construction through the project area.

Mitigation Measures

8. All construction or maintenance will be postponed when soils or road surfaces become saturated to a depth of three inches or more, unless otherwise approved by the Authorized

Officer (AO). Emergency maintenance may occur when saturated soil conditions exist without prior approval of the AO, but timely notification is required.

9. If access to pole locations for construction and/or maintenance result in ruts that are 3 inches or deeper, the holder will notify the AO and initiate reclamation activities including seeding with a BLM approved seed mix, mulching and installation of water bars or other means to reduce the concentration of storm water along tire ruts.

10. Waterbars will be installed, if necessary, on access routes to assure run off is not concentrated along these routes due to disturbance from vehicles.

11. Solid wastes (garbage) and sewage will be properly disposed of offsite in an approved facility.

12. The release of any chemical, oil, petroleum product, or sewage, etc., (regardless of quantity) must be contained immediately, cleaned up as soon as possible, and reported by the project proponent to the Bureau of Land Management.

13. Except for the auger holes for the placement of poles, all excavations into the underlying rock formation must be monitored by an approved paleontologist.

14. Vegetation will be removed by mechanical mastication means or in a manner to facilitate reclamation of the routes. All woody material and brush will be removed or mechanically masticated within a twenty foot area around the pole structures. If during construction there is any wildland fire in the area, Craig Interagency Dispatch will be notified so that a BLM Fire Crew may respond to the incident to determine the appropriate management response.

15. The holder is responsible for obtaining necessary state and local permits.

16. The power line route traverses severe winter range for mule deer. No development activities (including vegetation clearing) will be permitted from **January 1 through April 30**. *An exception is granted for the 2014-2015 winter.*

Compliance with Laws & Conformance with the Land Use Plan

This decision is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act. It is also in conformance with the 1997 White River Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan.

Environmental Analysis and Finding of No Significant Impact

The Proposed Action was analyzed in DOI-BLM-CO-110-2009-0023-EA and it was found to have no significant impacts, thus an EIS is not required.

Public Involvement

This project was posted on the WRFO's on-line National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) register on 12/5/2014. No comments or inquiries have been received.

Rationale

The proposal for the construction, operation, and maintenance of a 25-kV overhead power line to the XTO Energy well pad, in concert with the applied mitigation, conforms to the land use plan. The NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

Monitoring and Compliance

On-going compliance inspections will be conducted by White River Field Office staff. Specific mitigation developed in the associated Documentation of NEPA Adequacy will be followed. The holder will be notified of compliance related issues in writing, and depending on the nature of the issue(s), will be provided 30 days to resolve such issues.

Administrative Remedies

This decision shall take effect immediately upon the date it is signed by the Authorized Officer and shall remain in effect while any appeal is pending unless the Interior Board of Land Appeals issues a stay (43 CFR 2801.10(b)). Any appeal of this decision must follow the procedures set forth in 43 CFR Part 4. Within 30 days of the decision, a Notice of Appeal must be filed in the office of the Authorized Officer at White River Field Office, 220 East Market St., Meeker, CO 81641 with copies sent to the Regional Solicitor, Rocky Mountain Region, 755 Parfet St., Suite 151, Lakewood, CO 80215, and to the Department of the Interior, Board of Land Appeals, 801 North Quincy St., MS300-QC, Arlington, VA, 22203. If a statement of reasons for the appeal is not included with the notice, it must be filed with the Interior Board of Land Appeals at the above address within 30 days after the Notice of Appeal is filed with the Authorized Officer.

Signature of Authorized Official


Field Manager


Date